

FROM CANAL ZONE.

GORGONA, MAY, 11, 1908.

Editor News:

Thinking that some of my friends in Adair would enjoy writing about Panama and from I am writing you. If you like, you can insert same in your paper.

I left New Orleans the last of February on the steamship, Ellis, and after five days on the water arrived safely at Colon. As Gorgona was my destination, I did not tarry long in that city, a place of 25,000 people. It is very well paved and in a good sanitary condition. It lies on a beautiful bay fringed by palms and coconut trees.

Gorgona, the town I am located in, is about 27 miles from Colon and has a population of 100, mostly Americans. Panama, on the Pacific side, has a population of 30,000 and is built in the old Spanish style. The flat roofs and cement buildings, give it a picturesque look. It is well paved and has a good sewage, water and light system. They have no street cars at present, but are preparing to have a line through the portion of the city.

There are so many Americans down here that we can hardly realize that we are in a foreign country. But if you step into a street you will realize it quickly enough. Everything is 50 per cent. higher here than in the United States, excepting silks and goods imported from Japan and China. The Panamanian government charges 5 per cent. duty while the U. S. Government charge 50 per cent., so goods of the class mentioned can be bought cheap.

There is hardly any sickness on the Zone; not a case of yellow fever and but little malaria, pneumonia and typhoid fever.

The Sanitary officials have their hands full now, keeping the bubonic plague out of Panama City. So far they have succeeded, except in the Fall of 1905, then two cases developed, one at La Baco, a seaport on the Pacific side, and the other at Ancon, but the measures taken at that time promptly stopped the infection. However, there is plenty of it in Guayaquil, and there are reasons why alarm should be felt. Guayaquil is a large city in Ecuador with which Panama has considerable commerce, and which up to the present time has been free from plague. Plague has, however, existed for the past four years on the coast south of Guayaquil. We hope that the measures taken by the sanitary people will continue to keep us free from disease. The Board keeps up a constant war on mosquitoes and rats. The former carries yellow fever and malaria, and the latter spread the plague.

The Americans here number about 10,000. A Mr. Subletts, of Cane Valley, came to see me. He had read in the Adair County News that I was from Columbia. He has a position on the police force.

The Canal Zone is ten miles wide, but does not take in Colon nor Panama City.

The country of Panama is mountainous and has only one railroad running from Colon to Panama City. There are no dirt roads, but the United States Government is building some. By the Canal is to be 27 miles long

and will have some immense locks and dams. It starts in about one mile above Colon, on the Gulf side, and opens on the Pacific side, two miles above Panama City. It is certainly a big job and will cost U. S. Government \$500,000,000. It is expected to be completed by 1912. The rainy season is now on, holding back the work. It rains 9 months out of a year.

The climate here is delightful. The sun shines hot, but there is always a breeze. Panama is all right, but will never be as good as old Adair county, Ky.

Dr. J. E. Grant.

OLYMPIAN SPRINGS.

Adair County News,

I write a few items from this place as per my promise when I left home. Mrs. Williams and myself left Columbia Tuesday morning for this place at 10. a. m.

We found the roads fairly good with the exception of a number of bad places. In the mud near Garlin, Allen broke a tug, and the mud was too deep to get out with my nicely polished shoes, but a short consultation decided I had it to do, and so I soon put the harness in shape for pulling again, and came on our way rejoicing. We arrived at Dunnville about 5 o'clock, I had the pleasure that night of preaching to a good audience of my former parishiners, whom I was glad to see. It had been nearly three years since I had the pleasure of preaching for them. I began my ministry with that people in 1895 and with the exception of two years preached for them until December, 1905, making all told about 8 years. I love them very dearly.

I have been an humble instrument in the hands of God in leading many of them to accept Christ, and assisted them in building their splendid new house of worship. The town has changed very much since I first began to go there. So many of the best people have moved to other parts and some have gone to their final reward. Many of the young people have married and moved to other states and communities, but there is still a fine body of people there and the church and Sunday School are both moving on very well.

We arrived at this place the next day, (Wednesday) about 5 o'clock p. m. We found the proprietor, Mr. Sims, in the midst of repairing and enlarging his hotel, and was not expecting any guests until the first of June, but we prevailed with him to let us stay a few days, and drink of his splendid water.

Mrs. Williams was very much worn out when we arrived, but soon rested up and is able to eat, drink, and be merry. We expect to leave here the 22nd of the month and get back home in time for regular services the 4th Sunday. I have great faith in the water being a benefit to both of us, and especially to Mrs. Williams. I hear of many who have come here very great sufferers from rheumatism and stomach trouble and go away most well.

We had the pleasure of spending a few hours at the home of J. Q. Montgomery, in Liberty, Ky. His mother and sister were both expecting to come with us to this place but were not well enough to come at that time. They both spent some time here last year and were greatly benefited.

W. G. Montgomery and myself will begin a meeting at Cane Valley on Monday night after the 4th Sunday in this month, if it is the Lord's will.

I will preach at Green River church next Sunday. Hope to have the pleasure of attending the Lincoln County Convention of the Christian Church next Saturday at Turnersville.

Z. T. Williams.

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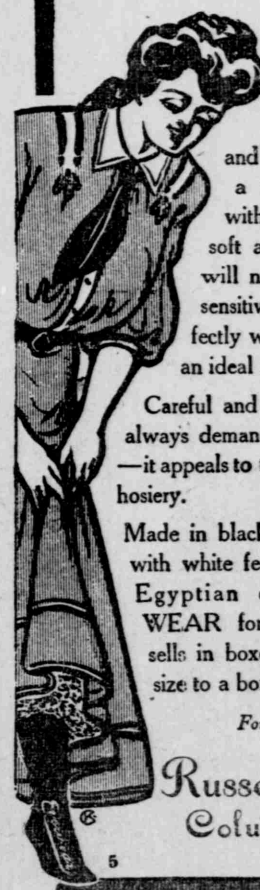
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